Foodgrains Production target

2148. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up a long term programme for production of foodgrains by 2000 AD;

(b) if so, the target set up the production of foodgrains by 2000 AD; and

(c) the various strategies proposed to be adopted to achieve that target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYA LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) According) to projections made in the Seventh Five Year Plan the estimated requirement of foodgrains by 2000 AD would be 235-240 million tonnes.

(c) According to the Seventh Plan Document the strategies to be adopted to achieve the target would incldue inter alia;

(i) emphasis on research in emerging areas like biotechnology, genetic engineer ing, photosynthesis, tissue culture, bioinsecticides and pheromones and its application for aiding the growth of agricultural productivity;

(ii) accelerate research on dryland farming, and the transfer of new technology from lab to farm, to channelise more credit, and the development of marketing facilities in dryland areas;

(iii) the introduction of modern management techniques in relation to irrigation and agriculture extension services reform and revitalisation of the cooperative movement;

(iv) increased use of- fertilizers and new high yielding varieties of seed and expansion of irrigation facilities; and the detailed strategies to be adopted in the' Eighth Plan and Ninth Plan would be spelt out in the respective Plan documents.

Danger of pesticides

2149. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the danger of pesticides and need for development of safe alternatives advocated by Vivan Fernandes as appeared in the Hindustan Times of 4th July, 1989; and

(b) whether Government have examined and acted upon many useful recommendations made at the National Core-Group meeting on pesticides held at Delhi in February, 1989 and which was attended by top Government and non-government scientists and professionals and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has no communication from the National Core Group regarding its recommendations.

टाटा द्वारा उच्च दामों पर "बेकार" इस्पात की बिक्री

2150. श्री राम नरेश यादव : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि टाटा समूह "टिस्को स्टील" के उत्पादन के 10% को जो करीब 2 लाख टन होता है "बेकार" दिखाकर ऊंची कीमतों पर बेचकर शेयर होल्डरों का हिस्सा तथा सरकारी करों का लगभग 500 करोड़ रुपये प्रतिवर्ष हड़प कर जाता है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि "टिस्को" के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के उद्देश्य से टाटा समूह के लिए सात कोयला खानें आरक्षित की गई हैं और इन कोयला खानों से उत्पादित अच्छी क्वालिटी के कोयले को टाटा समूह द्वारा "बेकार"

दिखाकर उसे ऊंची कीमतों पर बेचा जा रहा है और इस प्रकार वे बिहार सरकार को रायलटी और शेयर होल्डरों के लाभांश को हड़प रहे हैं; और

(ग) क्या सरकार "टिस्को स्टील प्लांट" के उत्पादन और कोयला खानों के संबंध में किसी संसदीय समिति से जांच करवाने का विचार रखती है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्री श्री माखन लाल फोतेदार : (क) और (ख) सरकार को इस संबंध में कोई शिकायत नहीं मिली है।

(ग) यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Liberalisation licensing policy for Sugar

2151. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have liberalised the licensing policy for the sugar industry to facilitate speedier establishment of new units in Industrial Backward areas;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) the total number of applications received for setting up of sugar mills in the backward areas of different States; and

(d) the number of licences issued for establishment of Sugar Mills during the current year, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A copy of the press note dated 11.5.89 giving details of the liberalised licensing policy is enclosed as statement (*See* below)

(c) After announcement of licencing policy for Seventh Five Year Plan vide Press note dated 2.1.1987, 63 applications have been received for setting up of new sugar mills in backward areas of different States of the country till 15.7.89.

(d) 32 letters of intent have been issued in current sugar year 1988-89 (October-September) upto 15.7.89 for establishment of new Sugar Mills.

Statement

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTER OF INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Press Note No. 12
(1989 Series)
SUBJECT:—Revised guidelines for licensing in the sugar industry for the remaining period of 7th Five-Year Plan.

The Central Government had announced in December, 1986 the new sugar licensing policy for the Seventh Plan Period. Under this policy, the initial capacity of new sugar units to be set up during the Seventh Plan was fixed at 2500 TCD (Tonnes cane crush per day) as against 1250 TCD in the earlier plan.. This was done to take advantage of the economics of Scale and facilitate incorporation of modern technology. The spatial distance between a new sugar factory and the existing units was kept at 40 Kms. as against 30 Kms. prescribed earlier. Since the announcement of this policy there have been representatins from industry, State Governments and others for relaxation of these conditions, particularly in respect of industrially backward areas, in view of the high capital cost involved and correspondingly higher quantum of share contri. bution required from cane growers or the State Governments, and more quantity of cane required right 'from the beginning.

2. The Government has considered this matter and has decided to relax the sugar licensing policy announced for the 7the Five-Year Plan period as under;—

(a) In areas specified as industrially backward areas by the Government of India and certified by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to be agro-climatically suited for development of sugarcane, licensing of new sugar factories in the Cooperative and Public Sectors would be allowed for initial capacity of 1750 TCD subject to the condition that the units would expand their capacity *to* 2500 TCD within 5 years of going into production.

(b) The spatial distance of 40 kilometres may be reaxed to 25 kilometres